

1. (Previously Presented) A method for treating vulnerable plaque within a blood vessel comprising:

identifying an implantation site in a blood vessel with vulnerable plaque, wherein the implantation site is at or upstream of the vulnerable plaque;

delivering an expandable medical device containing a therapeutic agent which stabilizes the vulnerable plaque to the blood vessel at the selected implantation site;

implanting the medical device at the implantation site; and

delivering the therapeutic agent from the expandable medical device primarily to a luminal side of the medical device over an administration period sufficient to stabilize the vulnerable plaque.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is an anti-inflammatory.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is a nonsteroidal anti inflammatory.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is an anti-metabolite.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is an immuno-suppressant.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is an antithrombin.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is an anti-leukocyte.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is a high density

lipoprotein.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is a cyclooxygenase inhibitor.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is a glitazones or PPAR agonist.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is contained in a plurality of openings in the device.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 11, wherein the openings also contain a therapeutic agent for treatment of restenosis.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein the therapeutic agent is arranged in the openings with a barrier layer arranged to achieve directional delivery primarily to the luminal side of the device.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 13, wherein the openings also contain a therapeutic agent for treatment of restenosis arranged for directional delivery primarily to a mural side of the device.

15. - 26. (Cancelled)